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Hongkong, 7th April, 1894. 1446

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MESSRS. DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd., were the first to introduce EUCALYPTUS OIL into Hongkong, and the quality of their import is still unsurpassed.

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Is a sovereign remedy for COLDS, INFLUENZA AND CATARRH. A first-rate Germicide. It is a more powerful disinfectant than Carbolic Acid.

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SEASON 1894-95.

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with HINTS FOR GARDENING have been issued and may still be obtained on application.

Our Seeds are all tested before being put up in London. They are packed under our own supervision, and the greatest care is exercised to insure perfection in transit.

Sowings should be made in fine weather only and the remainder of the packets secured from damp, and kept in a dry place for repeat sowings.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER.

A high-class Fertilizer for Pot Plants and for use in the Garden generally. It supplies natural nourishment to the soil, and assists the process of assimilation, thereby aiding the Plants to attain to their full size, vigour and beauty.

Sold in Tins containing 10 lbs. each. \$1.75
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LAWN MOWERS,
The Best and Cheapest Machines in the Market.
For Sale at Manufacturers' Prices.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1894.

BIRTH.

At Quamhoroe, Blarney, Isle of Wight, on the 25th August, the wife of Captain HUGH E. GRIMES late S. Lancashire Regt., of a daughter.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1894.

TELEGRAMS.

THE CHINA-JAPAN WAR.

London, October 11th.
Reuter's agent at Yokohama states that the Japanese have occupied the south bank of the Yodo river.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS ON THE WAR.

The semi-official Novosti urges Russian intervention and the annexation of Korea and Manchuria, which would enable Russia to extend the Trans-Siberian railway to Seoul, and thereby strengthen her footing on the Pacific.

THE CZAR'S HEALTH.

A Russian physician has informed the Czar that his disease is incurable, but that he may live some months.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THERE are now published in Paris 2,385 periodicals; nearly a hundred more than were issued this time last year.

WHEN a man gets drunk in the Argentine Republic the inevitable sentence is "to sweep the streets eight days." It is reported to be a wonderfully effective law.

A REGULAR meeting of St. John's Lodge, No. 6th, S.C., will be held in the Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

As will be seen by an advertisement in another part of this issue, the first of the new series of Black Pig concerts will be given in the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on Saturday, the 27th ult.

THIRTEEN steamship Victoria, which left Yokohama on the 8th ult., arrived at Tacoma on the 22nd, reached Chicago on the 23rd, and New York on the 27th.

AN excursion trip to Macao by the fast and powerful paddle steamer *Honam*, is advertised for Sunday next. The hour of departure from Hongkong will be 9 a.m. and the return journey from the Holy City will commence at about 9 p.m.

THE Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Marie Valeria*, which left Singapore on the 25th ult., got aground on the South Sands on her way to Penang, where, however, she arrived on the 27th apparently none the worse for the stranding.

THE French cruiser *Republique*, at present in the Atlantic Division, has been ordered to proceed with all despatch to Saigon, the intention of the new Minister of Marine being to temporarily attach her to the Far Eastern Squadron.

ACCORDING to latest advice from Penang, Mr. F. C. Berger had to be removed to the Penang Hospital suffering from fever and general collapse; the after effects of the tedious trial suit in which he came off second best, after making a good fight of it for several days.

LAST night's *Snail* publishes an extract from the diary of somebody who lived at Morrison Hill during the 1874 typhoon. It is not a thrilling narrative—what interest can there be to the outside public in the facts that a man had scarcely any sleep during the night and that his bath-room was blown in—, but it might have been greatly improved by a judicious use of the editorial stylus. It almost seems as if the *Snail* were edited with a pitchfork.

THERE is an awful lot of very dull "padding" in this morning's *Daily Press*—in fact it is all "padding," and of the feeblest kind. "An Old Fogey," who is responsible for "Sport and Anecdotes," would be more effective if he knew what he was writing about; but he doesn't, and those who do know—and there are still a few "sports" in Hongkong who had practical recollections in the early 'sixties—only sneer at the clumsy pretensions of a third class school-teacher who knows as much about horse-racing as he does of journalism. And that is nothing.

THE damage of no less than four advocates were on the Small Cause Court at Rangoon the other day. Deceased holders were applying to arrest these defaulting legal luminaries before the "Court" closed. One of the decrees was for whelk, one for pantaloon, pajamas and shirt, and two others for "clothes." It is passing strange that the *Rangoon Times*, that people who mostly receive their fees in cash, will run into debt apparently beyond their means of payment to ship keepers in town. And are these latter gentlemen not foolish to give advocates credit in these days?—Of course they are.

EXTRACT from an editorial in last night's *China Mail* on the Chi-Japan war, referring to China's creditable Europe:—"Except in the fact that she is a country to the country to Foreign trade and to develop the latent potentialities of the country, a change of Government need not be regarded in any way as a menace to the investments of Foreign speculators." The *Hongkong Telegraph* is prepared to present the sublime and ancient Order of the Bon-Jack to any of its numerous readers who can tell us what the foregoing riddle may happen to mean. "he derivation so generously offered by this journal is jewelled in three holes."

THE Hongkong amateur members of the A.D.C. had arranged to delight playgoers with a performance of that brilliant, but somewhat naughty comedy "Arabian Nights." The enterprise has come to grief. We learn that the charming young lady who was cast for the "Gutta Percha Girl" has been compelled through unforeseen circumstances to surrender to a man in which from her natural vivacity and *chic*, she was bound to score an unqualified success. It is a great pity, as "Arabian Nights" is eminently suited to the rather circumscribed abilities of Hongkong's historians, and its production by the cast originally fixed would have been quite a delightful revelation.

THE operations connected with the Chi-Japan war have extended to the ancient capital of Burma where the daughter "Son of Han" is said to be greatly excited by the unfavorable turn of events in Korea. A few days ago, says the *Mandelay Herald*, three Japanese damsels were invited by a couple of Chinamen in the Zeygote Bazaar, whereupon they made a determined onslaught on the Celestials. The Chinamen beat an ignominious retreat, but not until one of the Japs had traced with her finger-nails her initials on the forehead of one of the enemy. A smiling Burman Peller urged on the young ladies to victory, and considerably kept the crowd from pressing on the combatants.

IN the course of a very feeble report of the *Barraca* stabbing case at the Police Court yesterday, the *China Mail* avers that the man Bramble, who was sentenced to six months' hard labour for committing a brutal and cowardly assault upon the barmaid of the ship, had been kept in irons on board the *Barraca* ever since the assault was committed. It is from the 20th June to the 8th instant. And the *China Mail*, it is hardly necessary to add, therein once more deliberately lied. As a matter of fact Bramble was kept in irons only six hours and for reasons which Captain Yee, of knee-dill notoriety, may or may not see fit to explain. At all events we are assured that his action in respect to this little affair, and his failure to hand the culprit over to the police as soon as his ship arrived in port, is the subject of a good deal of adverse comment on board the good ship *Barraca*. *Verd sap*.

THE *British Medical Journal* understands that the report of the Opium Commission will not be ready before Christmas. It adds:—"We are informed that the gist of the report, which will be unanimous, will not be found to differ greatly, either in weight of evidence or in the character of the conclusions from our own recently published reports on the use of opium in India, collected from the reports of 120 leading Indian doctors and magistrates to a detailed schedule of questions issued by Mr. Ernest Hart. As the Commission at least 500,000 our method of proceeding by schedules of detailed questions has at least the advantage of economy, and if adopted as a preliminary measure by the Government would probably have prevented the issue of this costly roving Commission. Our inquiry will be found to coincide in the main with the findings of the Commission, and we are glad to find them accepted in its political and social results, but any substitutes such as alcohol, ginseng, or hashish would be productive of incalculably evil results without any corresponding benefits. The "opium question" may, in fact, be considered as killed by the clear light of independent and ubiquitous inquiry from skilled and disinterested witnesses."

THE DEATH OF MR. F. D. DRAPER.

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

At the Magistrate's Court this morning, Mr. H. E. Wodehouse continued the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the death of Mr. F. D. Draper, late water inspector attached to the Public Works Department, who died at the Civil Hospital last Sunday morning from the effects of a fall from a verandah at the back of Beconfield Arcade.

Charles Edward Plumb, recalled deposed that there were four in his room last Saturday night besides himself. There was a scuffle between himself and Mr. Clithelw, a Sanitary Inspector, and he eventually fired him out, this being the noise that was reported to have been heard. Deceased never spoke a word or took any part in the row, in fact he had no dispute with anyone; Clithelw went about 15 p.m. and all the other guests went after, Draper being the last to leave.

Mr. William Smith, living in Beconfield Arcade, said he was at home on the night of the 6th and having a great noise over his head, soon after 10 o'clock, rushed up stairs to see what it was, and saw Clithelw outside the door and asked what was the matter. Saw Plumb shove him out. Had no reason for thinking deceased met with his death otherwise than accidentally.

Inspector Baker said there was no further evidence to add. The light on the case of death did not consider there were any suspicious circumstances. He, however, labeled to draw attention to the verandah, the rails of which were only 2 feet to 2 ins. high and very dangerous.

His Worship recorded a finding of "accidental death."

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

LI HUNG-CHANG'S FURY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." DEAR SIR:—Having read in a recent issue of the *Telegraph* of an assault by Li Hung-Chang upon Sheng Tsai-tai who, it was alleged, had been found guilty of the grossest peculation, and supplying the troops with worthless arms and ammunition, it occurred to me that it might interest some of your readers to know that it came to my knowledge some time ago, when Sheng was ordered to immediately send troops North, that he having neither troops nor arms worthy the name was compelled to immediately enlist the rag-tag-and-bob-tail of the province of Kiang-su and procure from Hongkong and Shanghai anything in the shape of foreign weapons and ammunition that could be picked up. With such wholly unreliable arms, as with his own sword and dagger, some thousands of troops were sent up north to face the thoroughly disciplined, well armed, well fed and pugnacious legions of the Mikado. The result, as might well be imagined, was severe defeat in several sanguinary battles. And it must not be forgotten, too, that Sheng has for years been the confidant of the Great Viceroys of China, and has been that powerful satrap's medium in a thousand and one huge deals with foreigners, and in respect to purchases of men-of-war, steamers, railway iron, arms and ammunition (involving the expenditure of many millions of dollars) in particular. Little wonder, then, that the Viceroy should, when he found his protégé had virtually "sold" him and made him look ridiculous in the eyes of the whole world, lose his temper and resort to personal violence.

In the corruption rampant in high places in China that has placed the Empire in the deplorable position she is in to-day—making desperate efforts to keep the legions of a puppet empire at a respectable distance from the city in which the "Son of Heaven" sits enthroned. And it is beyond question, that the day has now passed when the really great nations of the world can afford to foster, as of yore, a barbarous system of Government in Far Cathay, which tends to render her one of the most decrepit, instead of one of the greatest and most powerful nations on the face of the earth. The measure of success attained by Japan in the war, irrespective of what may happen in the near future—whether triumph or defeat awaits her arms, probably a conquest even—is and ever will be a disgrace to our colossal neighbour, and it was doubtless to her knowledge, this, added to important discoveries of outrageous peculation on the part of Sheng Tsai-tai and other magnates, that Li Hung-chang's fury was in great measure attributable.

Yours faithfully, A TARTAR.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1894.
Our increased correspondence's somewhat erratic statements of late of the nature of a prophecy which we have good reason to believe will be fulfilled in this or the next year of grace at all events. The notion that Young Japan can effectually crush the colossal empire of China single-handed is altogether too absurd an assumption to merit serious consideration at the present juncture. And we doubt very much whether the bellicose advisers of the Mikado ever really believed even in their most sanguine moments, that without some outside assistance, either in the form of a revolutionary movement in China or open hostilities on the part of one or more of the Treaty Powers, anything but irreparable disaster could result from plunging into war with China under pretexts which, to say the least, were frivolous in the extreme. The end is not yet, though, and if we discern aright the dark clouds now rising on the political horizon, Japan will ere long have reason to bitterly regret the day she turned the territory of the defenceless ruler of Great Korea into a battlefield and stepping-stone to the invasion of the dominions of the Emperor Kwang-su.—Ed. H. K. *Telegraph*.]

MERCANTILE MARINE AFFAIRS.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

A NEW and most interesting departure in Far Eastern journalism reached us to-day in the form of a well printed 12-page weekly publication entitled the *Penang Maritime Journal* which is issued under the auspices of the Penang Maritime Association, a young and prosperous society that started on its career subject to the establishment here of the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association in June, 1890. As its title indicates, the *Penang Maritime Journal* is published chiefly in the interests of the shipping and seafaring communities of the Straits Settlements, and as such it will doubtless apply a long-felt want and meet with the cordial support which its enterprising proprietors (the Committee of the Penang Maritime Association) undoubtedly merit. Last ignorance respecting the liberal policy of this new organ of a most important section of the world's communities should lead to mistrust, and with a view to giving the Journal a good send-off in this part of the Far East, the

following quotations from the Editor's preface remarks will not be out of place. Under the headline "Our Humble Slaves" the proprietors announce, and their remarks are worthy of something more than passing notice, that "In Penang there is not only a large population of sailors, but many living on shore largely concerned in the mercantile marine. We have also the Marine Association. We feel, and many others here, share our opinion, that the Association may be made a far more useful one to all concerned in ships and shipping through the medium of such a paper as this. Questions of extreme importance are continually arising, and it is impossible that all the persons interested can be present at the meetings of the Marine Association to discuss those questions, for the simple reason that many of our ships can not be in harbour on the particular day on which a meeting is held. Reports of the meetings will be regularly published, so that members who have not been able to attend a meeting will speedily know what has taken place. They will then have the opportunity of expressing their views through the medium of this paper. And we at once say that whatever those views may be they will receive every consideration from us. We think it as well to state once and for all that this Journal will not be run in the interests of any particular class. It is our intention, and we shall use our most earnest endeavours, to make the paper useful to all, whether they be owners, masters, engineers, or whomsoever they may be. We ask in return for their cordial co-operation a matter of fact, there is much going on in our midst which is of very great importance to mariners but which is not of general public interest. It is in such matters as these that a celestial-paper is required. . . . In conclusion we would ask all those who are interested in the mercantile marine to assist us in every way they can to make our little venture a success."

The subscription to the *Penang Maritime Journal*, which we wish long life and prosperity, is only \$8 per annum, postage extra.

ONE VIEW OF THE JAPS.

There seems to be such a general disposition in the United States to sympathize with the Japanese pygmy horde in the fight which it has picked with the huge Shanghai giant, and with characteristic American civility to side with the smaller and weaker of the combatants, that public opinion here appears in danger of becoming blinded to the rights and wrongs of the case. A few remarks upon the subject coming from one who has spent considerable time in both China and Japan, not as a mere tourist, but as a resident, may possibly prove of timely interest, and enable the reader, even at the sacrifice of some of his pet illusions, to form a more just and correct opinion as to the merits of the strife.

In the first place, it is to the Japanese that belongs the responsibility of having started a war fraught with such grave and inevitable results to the country as to lead to the conviction that the Mikado, like Napoleon III. in 1870, has been forced to attack China in the hope of averting a revolution at home. Both he and his advisers must have known from the outset that there was no possibility of ultimate success; their only hope of escaping defeat of the most disastrous character lay in the chance of an intervention on their behalf of one or more of the foreign Powers. Now, there are only two Governments who can dispose of sufficient force to interfere in the fight and arrest its progress, namely, Russia and Great Britain, and both sympathies and interests are altogether in favor of the Chinese, and who have everything to gain, both commercially and politically, by espousing the cause of the Flowery Kingdom rather than that of the Empire of the Rising Sun. We may, therefore, look for a war which will be fought out to the bitter end without foreign interposition, and which is certain to terminate in the eventual victory of the Chinese, whose resources are inexhaustible whereas those of the Japanese are exceedingly limited. It is a war that is bound to bring changes in Japan, the extent of which no one can predict or foresee. And while it is possible that the Mikado may succeed in retaining possession of his throne, yet either defeat or the equally humiliating and improbable intervention of some European Power in his behalf could not fail to bring about a sweeping reaction from the progressive and ultra-Western policy which has hitherto prevailed in Tokio to former Oriental barbarism and an abandonment of all those foreign innovations and forms of civilization that are so bitterly resented by the people at large.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written to the contrary, our views as to what constitutes civilization are not popular in Japan. With the exception of a few thousand natives who have travelled abroad, and who are indebted for their present advantages of fortune and rank to their knowledge of foreign ways and methods, the vast body of the people, some 30,000,000 in number, is just as bitterly opposed to everything foreign—any, even more so—than in 1867, when the present Emperor recovered his temporal sovereignty from the Tycoon by the help of the revolutionary party which led as its primary motto "Death to the Foreigners!" If anything, foreigners are even still more unpopular now than they were then; for there are a hundred cases at present for every one that existed in those days. It is the foreigner who is held responsible for the enormous increase in life, as well as for the advent of the miserable flesh and blood and troubles of every kind. The nobles and Samurai deplore the loss of their privileges and of their exemption from the necessity of drudging for their livelihood. The artisan looks back with regret to the day when he was able to work only as and when he listed; the agricultural laborer and peasant hold the foreigner responsible for the heavy increase of the oceanic land tax, while the immense body of plebeians and mechanics bitterly resent the attempt made to convert the people to Christianity. In fact, the foreigners are regarded as the root and origin of all evil, and the popular feeling for several years past has been to the effect that the sooner they get out the better it will be for Japan. This is the basis of the programme of the powerful political party which styles itself "Old Japan," and which the Japanese counterpart of the Russian Pan-Slavism. It is a party that possesses the sympathies of considerably over 35,000,000 of the Japanese population, and it was with the object of diverting the attention and thoughts of this anti-foreign element from considerations of domestic and internal policy that the Mikado was forced to seek an frivolous pretext as that selected by Napoleon III. for deducting a totally groundless war upon the Chinese.

For my part—and there are many acquainted with Japan and China who are of the same opinion—the reversal of the Japanese to their former ways, manners, and customs will be a source of satisfaction, rather than of regret. All that civilization has done for them has been to

deprive them of their old, sturdy, vigorous, self-reliant and moral restraint they possessed, and to deprive them of those old-fashioned virtues of conventional courtesy and honor which rendered the Japanese nobleman, gentleman, and even peasant of twenty years ago an infinitely more attractive than he is to-day. Whether it be the Japs of the present, or whether it be the Japs of the past, I call to mind the remark which Prosper Mérimée once made concerning the Fourth Prince Achmet, the brother of Khedive Ismail, "La nature l'a fait singulier; la civilisation l'a rendu étonnant." (A boar by nature, civilization has rendered him a hog.) There is something noble and exalted even about the wild boar; there is nothing admirable about the occupant of the sty. And so it is with the old-time Samurai, or Daimio, on the one hand, and on the other, the Japanese gentleman of the "nouvelle école," or over-civilization in the vicer of the most superficial and shallow nature, having no foundation nor raison d'être. Civilization, as we understand it, is based upon Christianity, and is the result of a growth and evolution during a period of twenty centuries. The westernized Japanese fondly imagine that the civilization of the Occident is a thing of a few years. He closes his eyes to the fact that it is out of keeping, and even in direct contradiction with his national history, tradition, climate and customs. Moreover, he declines to accept its indispensable growth-dew, the Christian doctrine; and either dispenses with religion altogether as a superstitious piece of hog-scur, or else retains his Shinto faith, which is a relic of all official documents as "The National State religion of the Empire of Japan." It can scarcely be described as a Monothestic faith, for it comprises a worship of no less than 8,000,000 divinities, including the sun goddess, Amaterasu, the fox god, and the white mouse god. How is it possible to accept as serious the demands for admittance into the brotherhood of civilized nations of a people whose religion is the basis of whose little civilization is a press—includes the worship of white mice and of foxes?

Possibly it is owing to their worship of the fox as a god, that the commercial morality of the Japanese is so exceedingly low. The reputation of the fox for honesty and honorable dealing is about on a par with that of the average Japanese merchant. This statement may appear absurd, but it is abundantly corroborated in the official dispatches of the foreign consuls resident in Japan. Thus, the published reports of the Vienna Foreign Office contain a dispatch from the Austro-Hungarian consul at Yokohama in which he refers with some bitterness to the "difficulties of business relations with the Japanese," owing to the "lack of development of their moral qualities." He deprecates their "abjection to straight-forward dealing," and declares that they are "untrustworthy, unprincipled, and in the most elementary notions of commercial honor." He concludes the document by comparing them—greatly to their disadvantage—with the Chinese, among whose merchants dishonesty is extremely rare. It is well known throughout the East that if a Chinese merchant can only be induced to make a verbal engagement or promise, no other contract or bond is necessary, whereas it is absolutely impossible to place any reliance in the engagements of the Japanese man of business, no matter what precautions may be adopted. Even the American and European bankers and merchants established in Japan, invariably make a point of selecting Chinamen as their correspondents, factors, cashiers and tellers, cases of dishonesty on their part being almost entirely unknown, whereas one would ever dream of appointing a Japanese to any such place of trust.

I am perfectly aware that these assertions will call forth protests and expressions of dissent on the part of those many enthusiasts about Japan, who would lead the uninitiated to believe that its inhabitants are the most amiable, gentle and inoffensive race on the face of the globe, that their distinguishing trait is an inordinate love of foreign people and of foreign ways—a popular impression strengthened moreover by the amiable and subdued manners of the Japanese, whom we meet here and in Europe, so far more pleasant in every way than the surly and unlovable attitude of the low-class Chinese who infest the big cities of America and convey so false an impression of their more high-bred compatriots at home. Moreover, this erroneous impression concerning the Japanese people is a great measure confirmed by the numerous books which have been published about the "Land of the Rising Sun," both here and in Europe. Hardly one of the writers has either dared or cared to portray the Japs as they really are, and each seems to have been led by one consideration or another, to describe this queer yellow race, as if seen through rose-colored glasses. It is significant, however, that those who do attempt the longer time in Japan give the least flattering account of its people, and the contrast between the degree of enthusiasm displayed by Sir Edwin Arnold in his series of "Japanica" articles published in "Scribner's," and that shown by M. Bouquet in his remarkable essays on Japan in the Paris "Revue des Deux Mondes," is exceedingly instructive. Sir Edwin spent ten months, and M. Bouquet, to whose services the Mikado is indebted for the new legal code, ten years in Japan. Both are men of considerable eminence in the scientific and literary world, and are equally anxious, though for different reasons, to write nothing but pleasant and agreeable things about "Dai Nippon." While Sir Edwin describes the people as "the delight of my soul," and as "the most fearless, self-respecting, lofty-minded, generous, honorable and high-charactered nation on the world," M. Bouquet is compelled to say "Revue des Deux Mondes" to admit that the temperament of his Japanese friends is "without the requisite amount of equilibrium"; that "their minds are like ships without ballast, driven hither and thither by each gust of wind," and that they have "much intelligence, vivacity and talent," but "no thoroughness or perseverance of principle." The latter is the only conclusion, that which everybody who has lived for any length of time in Japan knows to be the truth, namely that the Japanese, though occasionally brilliant, are essentially superficial and without the slightest depth of knowledge, heart, or moral character.

Had Sir Edwin Arnold prolonged his stay in Japan—he had been younger and consequently less susceptible to the charms of the Muscovee whom he meets not only with "semi-angelic grace and sweetness," but also with "all the fascination and charm of her sex," it is probable that his account of the people would have possessed greater analogy to that of M. Bouquet, and in consequence been nearer the truth. When, therefore, I hear people in this country describing the Japanese as the "Yankees of the Orient," I sometimes ask myself whether they realize the true character of the people whom they are pleased to regard as their Asiatic counterpart. I for my part can see no resemblance between the two, for in America a love of truth prevails, whereas Sir Paul was evidently ignorant of the existence of either Japan or of the Japanese when he described the Yankees as being the greatest liars in the world. True they are the most picturesque and artistic liars in the universe. Their lies are as intricate and as elaborate as their marvellous embroideries. I would certainly never dream of saying that about the Americans, "HE ATTEMPTED IN NEW YORK TRAVEL."

OCEAN CARGO STEAMERS.

The terrific storms that have swept over the North Atlantic during the present season have put the seaworthiness of many ocean steamers to a severe test. They have with very few exceptions stood the buffing very creditably. Both the regular lines and the tramp steamers have proved to be equal to the strength required of them.

There has been in the past considerable shoring of the so-called tramp steamer. Much has been said derogatory of the construction of this class of vessel. It may be that heretofore certain of these steamers were more or less faulty in their build and have given rise to much unfavorable comment. But the keen competition of the present time has tended to correct any abuse of this kind that may possibly have existed and the tramp, or more properly the freight steamer of today, is a comparatively safe and reliable vessel. The development of this steamer has been very rapid indeed and largely in the nature of an evolution in all respects. The very great excellence should be attained in a steamer for this particular service, as witnessed in certain of the more recently built cargo boats, is remarkable. Comparison of the newer of these boats with many of the passenger steamers at present in the world would not result unfavorably to the former. Their great size and excellent equipment, particularly adapted to their specific employment, gives them a high rank as ocean vessels. The passenger steamer of many years past in point of speed did not nearly approach the ordinary freight steamer of the present time. The dividing of the hull into water-tight compartments and the various other safety devices to be found in a greater or less degree in all ocean freight boats confirm this. Nor is this class of steamer behind in the matter of speed. A thirteen or fourteen days' passage is not unusual and certain of them, perform the trip in much less time.

The time was not very far distant when a fourteen days voyage to Europe by passenger steamers was considered as very fair. Looked at in this light it will be seen that the much reviled tramp steamer is in many respects ahead of the crack passenger boats of former years and in certain instances is commensurate with the latter in all respects. As the result of this continued development it may be noticed that, as regards the North Atlantic trade particularly, the combination cargo and passenger steamers are gradually becoming less in number. In the passenger express steamer we have not strictly a non-carrying cargo boat, but it is one that approaches very nearly to it. The time may come when it will be entirely so. The tramp steamer, as being so much less expensive, they should be able to carry on this traffic more profitably, at the ruling rates of freight. The tramp steamer has deserved well of the confidence of the shipping community because of her very excellent behavior generally in the severe storms she has experienced during the present season. The accidents that have happened to them are considerable, but the extent of injury for the most part has been comparatively small. Altogether her record up to the present time is a very creditable one. — *New York Maritime Register.*

HELL ON EARTH.

A St. Petersburg letter to the *Philadelphia Press* says it has been decreed by the Czar's Government that Siberia is too good for convicts, and as soon as the new Trans-Siberian railway has penetrated its gloomy depths it will be turned into a "paradise" for agricultural settlers and mining shares, while nihilists and other refractory members of Russian society will, in the future, be exiled to the island of Sakhalin, off the coast of Russian Manchuria, the eastern terminus of the Czar's possessions, north of Japan. So revolting and horrible to civilized nations is Sakhalin that the Czar consented to its adoption as an open air prison, only after the assassination of President Carnot and the discovery of the recent plots against his own life.

The people and the convicts of Siberia never speak of the island other than "the hell of Sakhalin" and its climate is said to be no much worse than that of Siberia as to rob this appellation of an exaggerated character, even in the mouths of these lost ones. The island is separated from the mainland by the Gulf of Tartary, and its eastern coast is washed by the Sea of Okhotsk. The Governor of Siberia has reported that a human being not born on the island cannot live more than a year there. There is no means of escape except in the winter, when, if a prisoner can manage to make his way 100 miles north from the prison, it is sometimes possible to reach the mainland over the ice. The ice bridge is guarded; still, two or three prisoners have escaped by dodging behind masses of snow and ice, or what is far more probable, by bribing officials.

At the present moment the most interesting colonist of Sakhalin is Sophie B. Weinstein, a full-blooded Russian in spite of her German name. She first achieved criminal renown by preying her attentions upon the Shah of Persia during the latter's visit to St. Petersburg. Sophie had avowedly no intention of adding his Majesty to her list of admirers, but sought his acquaintance merely for the purpose of relieving him, if possible, of some of his diamond treasures. She failed in her attempt, but succeeded in having her private car attached to the Shah's special train. For this piece of enterprise she was banished to Siberia for a year, and while there organized a band of cut-throats and robbers, whose services she controlled on the continent after their terms had expired. She is said to be the sharpest criminal living, and in sending her to Sakhalin the Russian Government seems to have conferred a lasting benefit upon the wealthy classes.

ALCOHOL FOR THE TOILET.

Some women say, remarks a writer in the *Philadelphia Times*, that alcohol is a bad thing for the skin, but those women have either used it unreasonably often, or know nothing at all about it, for there is really no cosmetic that a woman can use with such good results as alcohol diluted with the purest rose-water. If your skin is particularly dry, perhaps it would be as well to use alcohol more than once in two or three days, but once a day ought not to hurt the most delicate skin, and will make a vast improvement in an oily skin.

Everybody knows that frequent face washing is bad for the complexion, and if when you begin to feel sticky as to chin, and oily as to nose, you rub your face with a fine flannel cloth wet with alcohol, afterward rubbing with a dry flannel or cambric skin, your face will be suffused with delicate color and quite free from dirt. If your face seems rough to the touch, not actually pimply, only lacking to velvet smoothness, a little alcohol gently rubbed in, either with the fingers or flannel, has a wonderful effect. As it removes every atom of impurities from the skin, it is a splendid thing for blemishes, and its daily use, if persevered in, will eradicate the ugly blemishes.

An ounce of pure alcohol well rubbed into the head about once a month cleans the scalp of every particle of dandruff, and gives the hair new life and vigor, keeping it smooth and glossy, if well brushed after the rubbing.

When you are travelling it is invaluable. After a long, dusty journey there is nothing more refreshing than the odor of rose-scented alcohol.

and application of the saturated flannel to be face will rub out the tired wrinkles as well as the accumulated dirt and perspiration, and leave your face fresh, and spiritively calm.

BITS OF INFORMATION.

Ducats were dukes' money. There are forty-eight eye diseases. Cologne has a 200-year-old rose tree. Millners plied their trade at Milan. The golden-crested wren is the smallest English bird.

The first work on geology was written by Mercator in 1574. The perfect English is supposed to be spoken in Lincolnshire.

The surface of Lake Superior is 631 feet above the ocean's level.

Wooden shoes are worn by about 70,000,000 people in Europe.

Thirty-four cases in a hundred of suicide are caused by insanity.

The word captain, so often used in the Bible, simply means officer.

The royal crown of Great Britain is the most magnificent in the world.

Five men can easily hold down a lion, but nine are required to hold a tiger.

Geography as a science was introduced into Europe by the Moors about 1240.

About 100,000 volcanic mountains have been seen on the moon through the telescope.

Mexico's standing army numbers 44,000 men, or about double that of the United States.

It is a curious fact that the first three Presidents of the United States married widows.

The lowest body of water in the Dead Sea, nearly 1,300 feet below the level of the sea.

In round numbers there are 25,000 men in the United States Army and 9,000 in the navy.

The oldest library is that of the Vatican. It was originally founded by Augustus Cæsar.

The average duration of life in India is twenty-four years. In England it is forty-four years.

In Paraguay, when a gentleman is introduced to a lady, it is customary for him to kiss her.

No fewer than 1,760 ancient manuscript copies of the New Testament in whole or in part exist.

The huge guns of modern navies can be fired only about seventy-five times before they are worn out.

To be perfectly proportioned a man should weigh twenty-eight pounds for every foot of his height.

The oldest coal mines in the world are those of Great Britain. They were worked in Roman times.

The most disastrous flood in Europe was that of Holland in 1570; 400,000 persons were drowned.

Taking it year in and year out, the coldest hour of each twenty-four, is 5 o'clock in the morning.

To go the King of Northumberland gave 800 acres of land for one book containing the history of the world.

The ordinary following fan is supposed to have been invented in Japan in the seventh century by a native artist.

As far as antiquarian research has been able to determine, glass was known at least 2,000 years before Christ.

Tiberias, Palestine, has a meteorological observatory situated 553 feet below the level of the Mediterranean Sea.

The monster water-wheel at the Calumet and Hecla copper mine, Lake Superior region, weighs 200 tons.

The revenue statistics show that less than one-fourth as much liquor is used in Maine as is the average in our country.

There is a well at Scarpa, a village near Turin, Italy, which is 7,700 feet deep, all but 26 feet being cut in solid rock.

The exact distance from either the North or South Pole to the Equator, measured along the earth's surface, is 6,000 miles.

Happachion, 100 years B.C., counted 1,012 stars with the naked eye and Hipparchus, 1022, stars with the telescope now counts 100,000,000.

The bat won by Napoleon at the battle of Eylau was sold for 100 francs in 1835, a sum equal to \$200 in United States currency.

The Bible had fifty authors. Its division into chapters is due to Cardinal Hugo de Sancto Caro, who lived in the Thirteenth Century.

One of the early Washington coins, of which only two specimens are known to exist, bears the legend: "Washington the Great, D.C."

There is a coal mine at Nanaimo, in British Columbia, the galleries of which extend for a distance of twelve miles under the bed of the ocean.

The oldest town in Texas, and by some believed to be the oldest town in the United States, is Yalata, on the Rio Grande, in El Paso country.

Competent authorities estimate that not less than 400,000,000 human mummies were made in Egypt from the time of the beginning of the art of embalming until its discontinuance in the Seventh century.

The seven wonders of the ancient world were: The Pyramids of Egypt; the walls and hanging gardens of Babylon; the Temple of Diana at Ephesus; the tomb of Mausolus, King of Caria; the Pharos or lighthouse of Alexandria; the gold and ivory statue of Jupiter at Olympia; and the Colossus at Rhodes.

HE MIGHT HAVE ESCAPED ANY DAY.

There was once a man, who, on account of his religious convictions was arrested by a despotic government and thrown into prison. Looking at the strong stone walls that shut him in, he naturally concluded that he must spend the rest of his days in this lonely and dismal place. Yet wretched as the prospect was, there was some comfort in the thought that he was a victim of oppression, and not undergoing punishment as a violator of any good and righteous law. All the same he would have been glad to get out, as he had a wife and child at home.

Wherefore then he stayed and languished for sixteen years. At nearly the end of that period it occurred to him one day to climb up on a projecting stone in the wall and take a peep through the window above his head. He did so, and found the iron bars removable and the wall not fastened. He drew the bars down, and he was free. He opened the window, jumped six feet to the ground, and left that district immediately. He might have done so at any time during his protracted captivity of the place, if he had only been blessed with a more inquiring mind and not taken so much for granted.

Now, here comes an incident both like and unlike that of the martyr like to be sure, there was loss of free action, unlike it because the sufferer was not imprisoned as he was.

The story is in the form of a letter, one of those letters we all prefer to get—short and made up of short words. The writer, a lady, says: "For the last sixteen years I have been greatly afflicted with bilious complaints and weakness. I was always slow, weak, and low-spirited. I had no appetite, and when food was placed before me I could not touch it. For days I could scarcely eat anything. At times I was troubled with sickness and heaving at the stomach, spitting up a thick phlegm. I had a troublesome cough, with pain in my chest and difficulty of breathing. I got very weak and could scarcely drag myself in and out of the shop. In December, 1891, I began to take a medicine I had heard spoken of by many of my customers, called Mother Selig's Curative Syrup. After I had taken only a few doses I felt better, and I had not used the medicine for a fortnight when I felt better than I had done for years. Thus encouraged, I kept on with it until I was restored to good health. My son Arthur had suffered off and on for a year from pain and heaviness after meals, with a sinking feeling at the pit of the stomach. He was induced to try Mother Selig's Curative Syrup and the result was the same as in my own case. I know several persons in this district who have been cured by the Syrup after all other means had failed. You are at liberty to publish my letter if you think it might be of benefit to others afflicted as I was. Yours truly, (signed) Mrs. M. Ward, 174, Ilkinston Road, Radford, Nottingham, April 1st, 1892."

We congratulate Mrs. Ward upon her deliverance from a distressing and dangerous disease. What she did not know how easily and certainly she could be cured. Sixteen years is too large a slice out of one's life to be spent in bodily and mental misery. Very few of us can have wealth in any case, but health should be a blessing common and universal as sunshine. And it might be better to know how to prevent it than to have it. It is a pity that so many people are afflicted with this kind of disease as the digestive organs—indigestion and dyspepsia—the most afflictive and perilous of all because it involves every function of the body, scattering its poison at every point through the medium of the blood. Nearly all ailments are but the differently named results and symptoms of this prolific parent of evil. That the remedy she mentions should have cured her will not surprise those who know its well-founded reputation. Many more cases constantly yield to it.

Our friend the martyr abode in his cell a weary time because he was ignorant of the simple way out. If the reader of these lines is a captive under any such conditions, let him remember that in her short and honest letter our correspondent points to the open door.—*Advt.*

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

11th October, 1894.—At 4 p.m.									
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Mails

Mails.

**NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP AND
RAILROAD COMPANIES.**

**PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM
HONGKONG.**

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

Sikh	Tuesday	October 16th.	
Victoria	Tuesday	November 6th.	
Tacoma	Tuesday	December 11th.	
Sikh	Tuesday	January 1st.	
Victoria	Tuesday	January 22nd.	

THE Steamship

"SIKIH,"

Captain J. Rowley, sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 16th October, will proceed to VICTORIA, B.C. and TACOMA, via SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Points, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of the Freight Agent, Northern Pacific Railroad, Tacoma, Wash.

Parcels must be sent to our Office with addresses marked in full by 5 P.M. on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to

DODD WELL, CARLILL & Co.,

Hongkong, 27th September, 1894.

Intimations.

**PRIVATE BOARD
AND
RESIDENCE.**

GLENEALY BUILDINGS.

12, G **MRS. GILLANDERS.**

Hongkong, 3rd July, 1894. 752

SIEN TING,
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 10, DIAGULAR STREET.
TERMS VERY MODERATE,
Consultation free.

Hongkong, 27th September, 1894. 7304

DENTISTRY.

D **R. J. SAKATA** (from Japan),
Mr. SUI SANG,
DENTAL SURGEONS,
55, Queen's Road Central.
First Class Dentistry and Moderate Fees.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1894.

DENTISTRY.

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP
AND
MODERATE FEES.

M. R. WONG TAI-FONG.
 Surgeon Dentist,
 (Formerly, articled Apprentice, and latterly
 assistant to Dr. ROBERTS),
 HAS REMOVED
 TO
 THE BANK BUILDINGS,
 QUEEN'S ROAD,
 (Opposite Hongkong Hotel).
 CONSULTATION FREE.
 Hongkong, 27th July, 1891.

For Sale.

IMPORTANT TO NAVIGATORS.

WILL SHORTLY BE READY.

A SECOND EDITION
 OF
 THREE THOUSAND COPIES
 OF
 "THE TYPHOONS OF THE
 EASTERN SEAS."

A REVIEW,
 by
 THE LATE MAJOR-GENERAL PALMER, R.E.
 (Reprinted from *The Hongkong Telegraph*.)

PRICE FIFTY CENTS.

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"
 Pedder's Hill.

Hongkong, 24th May, 1894.

THE TYPHOON SEASON.

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